



## WMRSD Leaders and Learners – Your Community Connection White Mountains Regional School District

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### At Lancaster Elementary School

Read Across America was created in 1997. It is celebrated across the nation on March 2nd, which is also the birthday of Dr. Suess' (born Theodore Geisel). Lancaster Elementary celebrated Read Across America with a whole week of activities. From dress up days to trivia questions, fun was for sure to be had. One major component of Read Across America is DEAR, or Drop Everything And Read. Students were encouraged to stop what they were doing and read a book of their choice. Reading is fundamental as it encourages a love for reading, improves fluency rates, and strengthens the community by bringing people together.



### At White Mountains Regional High School

“A True Culture of Collaboration and Legacy”

For over 40 years White Mountains Regional High School has had some form of foods and service course, program or elective, and workplace training and readiness has evolved tremendously becoming one that is competency and skill based, segmented into career clusters. The Hospitality and Tourism career cluster programs at White Mountains today consists of multiple feeder elective courses with access beginning in seventh grade for middle school students who can take exploratory quarter-long classes in basic cooking, hospitality and restaurant basics, and even courses in ornamental centerpiece and flower design. With courses and offerings expanding in scope and



rigor as they move up to the high school level, by the time they graduate, students have had the options to earn college credits and industry recognized credentials honored across many areas of the professional world.

Students interested in fields of professional employment should be ready and willing to do so with the understanding and mindset of effective collaboration with their peers, both within and outside of their respective departments. All aspects of the hospitality and service industry rely daily on this philosophy and so too do the students at White Mountains. Under the guidance of an all WMRHS Alumni faculty, the three career cluster teachers were all brought up in the area, educated at White Mountains, and have voluntarily returned to lead, educate and mold the next generation. Working side-by-side with artistic and graphic designer Mrs. Stacey Zemla, to learning photography with art teacher Mr. Marc Salmin, effective reflective writing and project editing with Mrs. Beth Lufkin, vegetable growing and harvesting with Ms. Kaylah Graham, learning about the performing arts Mrs. Cat Tobin to augment the experience of internal dining events, to the culinary uses of awesome maple syrups made yearly by Mr. Dana Graham and his Maple Sugaring students, the expansive scope of students in all aspects of hospitality and tourism. Students at White Mountains are learning to live, act and perform in a true culture of collaboration all while being led by a legacy of White Mountains students across multiple generations. Perhaps the future educators of White Mountains are already in the building, and they just don't know it yet! Maybe they never thought they would be in the roles they are now, but the love of their craft, their care for their community and true love for Sparta is what brought them back to help mold the futures of our community's youth.